

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Office Action dated on August 29, 2002 and the applied art. Claims 1-9 are pending in the application with claims 1 and 4-7 in the independent form. By the present Amendment, independent claims 1, 4 and 7 have been amended to correct formal matters not affecting the scope of the claims. It is submitted that no new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised by the present Amendment.

Claims 1-2 and 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,991,290 to Malik in view of U.S. Patent 5,521,719 to Yamada. Claims 3 and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as allegedly unpatentable over Malik in view of Yamada, and in further view of U.S. Patent 5,692,036 to Saito. Applicant has carefully considered the Examiner's comments and the cited art, and respectfully submits independent claims 1 and 4-7 are patentable over the cited art for at least the following reasons.

Independent claims 1 relates to a facsimile communication method of performing a Group 3 facsimile communications operation that uses an optional frame signal, which comprises providing a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for different facsimile machines that have common specifications of optional frames, receiving a call for the facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information from a calling facsimile machine, verifying the identification information sent from the calling facsimile machine with the identification information prestored in the memory, canceling the facsimile communications operation if the identification information does not correspond with the identification information prestored in the memory, and executing the facsimile communications operation if the identification

information correspond to the identification prestored in the memory.

Malik, as understood by the Applicant, relates to a method and system for forming a digital facsimile message that includes a subaddress. A destination server 30 converts a subaddress into a network address, preferably an IP address, that is used to route message data 503. A 4-digit subaddress is extracted from a TSI data field and compared to a set of IP addresses stored in memory and identifies a corresponding IP address that matches the four-digit address. The matching IP address is then used to create an appropriate network message header.

However, Applicant finds no teaching or suggestion of prestoring identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames, as recited in independent claim 1.

Yamada, as understood by Applicant, relates to a communication procedure executing unit that executes a predetermined communication procedure using subaddress frames. However, Yamada is not believed to provide any of the elements missing from Malik that would have made the claims obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Accordingly, applicant submits independent claim 1 is patentable over the cited art.

Independent claims 4-7 are believed to be patentable for at least the similar reasons.

Accordingly, Applicant submits independent claims 1 and 4-7 are patentable over the cited art.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this

paper should be considered to be such a petition, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Entry of this response and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WIT MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGED IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A facsimile communication method for performing a Group 3 facsimile communications operation using an optional frame signal, comprising [the steps of]:
 - providing a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames;
 - receiving a call for a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information from a calling facsimile machine;
 - verifying said identification information sent from said calling facsimile machine with the identification information prestored in said memory;
 - canceling performance of the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when said identification information sent from said calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in said memory; and
 - executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when said identification information sent from said calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in said memory.

4. (Amended) A facsimile communication method for performing a Group 3 facsimile communications operation using optional frame signals in a calling number display service mode, comprising [the steps of]:
 - providing a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification

information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames;

receiving a telephone number of a calling facsimile machine during a call establishing process in said calling number display service mode and a signal requesting a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame;

verifying said telephone number of said calling facsimile machine received in said receiving step with the identification information prestored in said memory;

cancelling performance of the facsimile communications operation using said optional frame when said identification information of said calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in said memory; and

executing the facsimile communications operation using the optional frame when said telephone number of said calling facsimile machine corresponds to the identification information prestored in said memory.

7. (Amended) A facsimile communication method for performing a Group 3 facsimile communications operation using an optional frame signal, comprising [the steps of]:

providing a facsimile apparatus with a memory which prestores identification information for a plurality of different facsimile machines having common specifications of optional frames;

receiving a call for a facsimile communications operation using an optional frame and identification information from a calling facsimile machine; and

verifying said identification information sent from said calling facsimile machine with

the identification information prestored in said memory,

wherein when said identification information sent from said calling facsimile machine does not correspond with the identification information prestored in said memory, standard facsimile operations that do not use the optional frame are performed while facsimile operations that would use the optional frame are canceled.